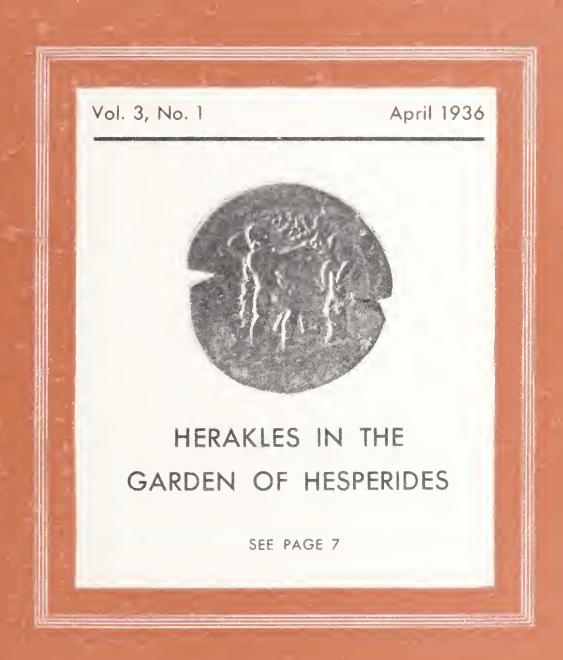
THE COIN COLLECTOR'S JOURNAL



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Illustrating and Describing Early American Coins, United States Gold, Silver and Copper Coins, Private Gold Coins, Merchants' Tokens, Civil War Tokens, Encased Postage Stamps, Colonial and Continental Currency, United States Notes and Fractional Currency, Confederate and Southern State Notes; giving the prices at which most of them may be obtained from the publishers; with over eight hundred illustrations.

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Whole No. 25

EDITORIAL

Reprinting Obsolete Books

The output of numismatic literature in America hardly ever keeps pace with the needs of collectors. The few books that can really be considered standard have long been out of print. Many works that were more or less useful at the time they were published are still obtainable, but are woefully inadequate for the needs of the present day collector.

The collector, dealer or society that publishes a reliable and comprehensive treatise on any phase of numismatics is deserving of the gratitude of every member of the coin-collecting fraternity. Even though immediate returns may be insufficient to cover the cost of the publication, the work, if worthy of merit will bring its own reward.

Probably the most perverted manner by which contributions are made to the science of collecting is that of reprinting obsolete books. Even the rankest amateur who contributes his opinion or insignificant discovery to the annals of numismatics is more worthy of attention than are those who try to make a few dollars profit by reprinting the results obtained years ago by pioneer numismatists.

If one must publish and sell numismatic books let him produce something original or at least, reprint something that has never been surpassed. If he can do neither, let him keep his hands off the research work of his betters.

Coming Features

Robert H. Lloyd has prepared, for readers of the Journal, six feature articles on the small sized paper money of the United States. Each article will be accompanied by a two page table, listing the various dates, denominations, signatures, varieties, etc. This series will probably begin in the May Journal.

Joseph Barnet has prepared two illustrated check lists. One showing and listing all the known Civil War Tokens and Cards showing the head of Washington, and another on Tokens and Cards of the same period showing the portrait of Lincoln.

As each of these writers is outstanding in his particular field, these check lists may be considered among the really important contributions to numismatic literature. For the convenience of those who wish to order a few extra copies containing these lists, we plan to print a somewhat larger edition of the Journal than is usual. Extra copies are ten cents each.

The Coinage of Ethiopia

By HOWLAND WOOD

PARTI

ALTHOUGH our readers have undoubtedly been learning much about Ethiopia, or Abyssinia as the country was formerly called, it is doubtful if many know much about its coinage. This may be divided into three groups. The Axumite coins, the Harrar pieces and the modern series. The coins have never been treated as a whole, and the Axumite coins have only recently been treated in a comprehensive manner. The other series have received scant attention in numismatic literature.

ago. These Axumite Kings struck the first coins in the territory we now know as Ethiopia.

Their rule extends at times across the Red Sea into Arabia and many of their coins have been found in the Yemen. After the sixth century A.D. their territory was confined to Africa. St. Frumentius established a Christian Church in the country and became the first Bishop of Axum in 328 and baptized their King Ezanas. This was the beginning of Christianity in Ethiopia.









Ezanas

Axumite Coins

We have all heard that the Ethiopian kings claim descent from Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, but all of the connecting links have never been wholly worked out. The very early Ethiopian history is shrouded in much mystery, and the only connecting links seem to be through Egyptian history. Beginning in the fourth millenium B.C. we find accounts of hostile incursions into one another's territories. The twenty-sixth Dynasty that ruled Egypt about the end of the eighth century B.C. was Ethiopian. Then for centuries occasional references are made concerning wars and treaties, later with the Ptolemies and then with the Romans. In the first century A.D. when the Romans met reverses in Arabia, a Kingdom got its start in Ethiopia that lasted for about ten centuries. This was known as the Kingdom of Axum, from its capital city now in the province of Tigré, and which the Italians captured with much jubilation a short while

Probably up to the time of the Mohammedan invasion of Egypt in the middle of the seventh century the Axumites were in frequent communication with Egypt and the other Christian countries, and a number of letters are extant. With the advent of the Arabs the country was hemmed in and was cut off from civilization. Gibbon tersely says: "Encompassed by the enemies of their religion, the Ethiopians slept for near a thousand years, forgetful of the world by whom they were forgotten." After a lapse of centuries one of those old superstitions or legends kept cropping up in Europe that a Christian kingdom existed somewhere, under the rule of Prester John. After a century or so of conjecture and search this country was placed in Abyssinia. The Portuquese missions of the fifteenth century to this land resulted from this old belief.

The Axumite coinage though probably plentiful enough at the time is to-

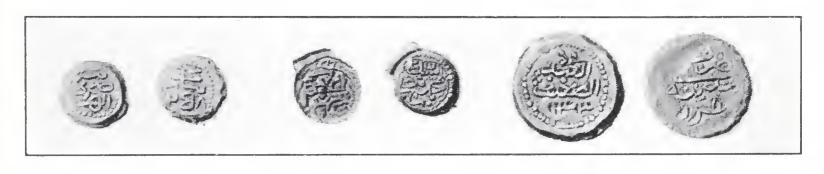
April, 1936

day very rare. A corpus written about ten years ago* lists only 350 known coins in all metals. The first mention of these coins was in 1838 by Eduard Ruppell. Most of the coins are gold of small size and show a crowned head within wheat ears on one side and a head with close fitting cap within wheat ears on the reverse. The inscription is in ill-fashioned Greek letters, generally with the name of the King and Basileus, and on the reverse "of the Axumites, of the family of——". Those struck before the conversion to Christianity have at the top a star and crescent, afterwards a cross. Of the two coins illustrated the first one is a gold piece of Ezanas as a pagan king before his conversion about 330. The other piece illustrated is a coin of Ella Gabaz, a King of the

doms, Galla chieftains and Moslem emirs.

The next series of coins that fall within the domain of Abyssinia were issued by a non Ethiopian house. About 1370 A.D. Arabs founded Harrar and ruled the eastern part of the country until Menelik forced the last Emir to abdicate in January 1887. Although the list of the Emirs of Harrar is a long one, I have failed to find any coins issued except by the last few rulers. All of these coins are rare and have received but little mention. Richard F. Burton in his "First Footsteps in East Africa" probably brought to light the first knowledge of these coins.

All but two of the pieces are of brass, of small module with curious bevelled edges, as if they were cut out of sheet



Coins of Ethiopia 1834-1866

seventh or eighth century and shows how little the style had changed in three or four hundred years. This piece is especially interesting as having Nr for Negus, the Ethiopic word for King, probably the first time used numismatically.

The silver coins are very rare and generally show an elaborate form of a cross on the reverse. They are either smaller or the same size as the gold. The copper are somewhat scarce and show a variety of types, profiles, facing heads, or King seated, and on those after 330 with crosses of all forms on the reverse.

From about the year 1000 the country disappears numismatically from the picture. Various dynasties ruled the region until modern times and the country was more or less divided into petty king-

metal by a chisel. The silver is of thin fabric and resemble closely the small Turkish silver or base coins in use not many years ago. The brass pieces are called Mahallaks and it is said, were the equivalent of a gersh or twenty to a talari.

According to the last Emir Abdallah, a number of small Turkish silver coins were sent over to Harrar in 959 A.H. or 1551 A.D., to the Emir Nur by Sultan Suliman I of Turkey. A number of these pieces badly worn from long service, were found at Harrar in 1898.

I have been unable to learn when the Emirs first began to strike coins, possibly the supply of Turkish coins and barter met the demand for many years. The three pieces illustrated are representative of this series. No. I was issued

^{*} Numismata Axumita by Arturo Anzani in Rivista Italiana di Numismatica 1926 and 1928.

by Abu Bekr 1834-1851 and has the peculiar inscription "with its date, the year 1258", (1841 A.D.) and on the reverse the mint of Harrar.

No. 2 was struck by Mohammad ibn Abd-esh-Shakour 1855-1875 and carries his name, the mint, and the year 1284, or 1867 A.D. This Emir was put to death by Rauf Pasha in 1875 and the country came under the sway of Egypt until 1885 when the revolt in the Sudan caused the abandonment of the province. In that year one Abdallah restored the Emirate and ruled for two years until forced out by Menelik in 1887. No. 3 shows a coin struck by Abdallah with the touching but frequently used epithet "The feeble servant (of God)" 1303 (1886 A.D.). The reverse has "struck in the city of Harrar".

In a land where comparatively little money is minted one of the expedients as an aid to commercial transactions would naturally be certain articles, desired or useful, that would retain somewhat of a fixed value. Another expedient would be some foreign coin obtainable in sufficient quantities to meet ordinary demands. The Spanish-American and Mexican dollars have met this demand in many parts of the world. Both of these auxiliaries of commerce have been made use of in Ethiopia and their use has been so distinctive and well known that any account of the coinage of this land must include them.

One of the world's most distinctive mediums of exchange are the bars of salt that pass current in Ethiopia. Called for the most part by the name of amolé. sometimes tsho, they are mined from rock salt in the region near Massowah, now an Italian province, and in Tigré which is now occupied by Italians. They are about eight inches long, foursided. about two inches thick in the middle and tapering to about an inch at each end. Ten as a rule go to a thaler and at Addis Ababa where coins are more prevalent, five or six. They are also divided into halves and quarters. They are still in use. Cartridges were an-



Salt as Money

other common medium of exchange. All kinds and sizes, empty or full were current, but the kind generally preferred bore the mark of the Société francaise des munitions, S.F.M. and were valued at ten to twenty to a thaler. Undoubtedly many of these have been made good use of in recent months. Pieces of cotton cloth and glass beads in bags were also used as currency.

The Maria Theresa thaler has been the most used coin in the land for over a century and is evidently the chief medium of exchange there today. The tenacity with which this coin has held its own, meeting all rivals, may be called one of the wonders of numismatics, and seems almost to refute common sense, as it is unredeemable except for bullion. The story goes that in the latter part of the eighteenth century Austrian merchants introduced this thaler into Abyssinia, claiming the coin had always a fixed value while other coins had not. So carefully did they impress on the natives that this coin was the only immutable piece of money, that in after years when similar dollars, but bearing other dates and mint marks, penetrated into the country the natives would have nothing to do with them. As the demand for these were constant, not only

(Continued on page 14)

United States Commemorative Coins The Lafayette Silver Dollar





Lafayette Dollar, 1900. Obv. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Heads of Washington and Lafayette, conjoined, to right; below, LAFAYETTE DOL-LAR. Washington's portrait was made from Houdin's bust and Lafayette's from the Counois head on a medal made at the French mint. Rev. ERECTED. BY. THE. YOUTH. OF. THE. UNITED. STATES. IN. HONOR. OF GEN. LAFAYETTE. Equestrian statue of General Lafayette, to left; on base, BARTLETT; below, PARIS 1900. Edge, reeded. Size 24. Dies were engraved by C. E. Barber and Paul Bartlett. Coinage 50,026.

The Lafayette coin in many respects is the most remarkable of United States commemorative issues. It honors a great man. A man who in the perilous days of the American revolution, risked his lite, wealth, and position to aid in a cause he believed to be just.

Lafayette was born in 1757 of wealthy and noble parents at the chateau of Chavaniac in Auvergne, France. He was left an orphan when 15 years of age and at the age of 16 married a young and beautiful French noblewoman. In his 19th year, Lafayette volunteered to serve in the American army, providing that he should act as a volunteer and receive no pay for his services. His offer was accepted and he was given the rank and commission of major-general in the United States army. The day after he received his commission he met General Washington, and the two became life long friends.

It is therefore quite natural that this coin should show the superimposed portraits of these two great men who enjoyed and respected each others' friendship through so many years.

The coin itself has several outstanding features. It is the first United States coin to show the portrait of a former president. It is the first and only dollar size silver commemorative coin. And so far as is known, it is the only commemorative coin showing different die varieties. Most unusual perhaps, is the fact that it is the only commemorative coin that the government has issued without cost to those in charge of the celebration

As it is 36 years since the issue occurred it might not be remiss to relate the circumstances connected with it.

Towards the end of the 19th century a movement was underway in America to honor the French patriot Lafayette by the erection of a monument in Paris. School children throughout the United States contributed largely to the fund and the United States government donated 50,000 silver dollars. These cost the government only 50 cents each, the cost of silver at that time, and were sold by the commission to collectors for \$2.00 each.

These dollars were issued in 1899 although they bore the date 1900. As it is against the monetary laws of the country to issue predated coins, the date 1900 was placed on the coin to indicate the date of the erection of the monument and not the date of coinage. Another exception was made for this coin and that is its denomination. It is not written "one dollar" as required by law, but "Lafayette Dollar." Whether the Lafayette Dollar is on the old gold standard or among the fallen one dollar pieces is a matter we have not investigated.

The coin press used to strike these dollars was an old one, having been exhibited at many international and state expositions held in various parts of the country. Miss Gleary, an employee of the mint operated the press while the dollars were being struck. An offer of \$5,000 was made for the first coin issued but it was refused as it had been determined to present the first coin to the French president.

Canada's New Dollar

By HOWLAND WOOD

THE dollar struck by Canada for 1936 presents about the same appearance as the one struck in 1935. This was described in the Journal for May of last year. The previous one commemorated the silver jubilee of the late King, while the present one is a regular mintage. Consequently the legend on the obverse had to be changed from GEORGIVS V REX IMPERATOR ANNO REGNIXXV to GEORGIVS V DEI GRA: -REX ET IND : EMP : . There are also minor details in the bust, the head is a trifle smaller and is placed higher up in the field, the cross on the crown breaking the legend. The rendering of the mantle is somewhat different and more of the collar of the Order of the Garter is shown. The truncation of the bust does not go to the edge of the coin. The reverse is identical with that of 1935.

Domestic Coinage Executed, by Mints, During the Months of January, February and March, 1936

Denomination Half Dollars—regular Half Dollars—commemorative	l l	San Francisco \$ ———	Denver \$350,000.00
Arkansas	5,005.00	5,006.00	5,005.00
Providence	 10,006.50	7,505.50	7,505.00
Texas	5,004.00	5,004.00	5,003.00
Daniel Boone	5,004.00	2,503.00	2,502.50
Quarter Dollars	 471,000.00	380,000.00	808,900.00
Dimes	265,000.00		300,000.00
Five-Cent Nickel	725,450.00	45,750.00	125,000.00
One-Cent Bronze	 398,200.00	118,000.00	60,000.00

Coinage Executed For Foreign Governments

		Philadelph	nia Mint
Cuba—Silver—I peso		7,500,000	pieces .
Venezuela—Silver—I bolivar		1,000,000	11
Nicaragua—Silver—10 centavos		250,000	3 8
Nicaragua—Nickel—5 centavos		200,000	1.1
Costa Rica—Nickel—I Colon		350,000	11

Alexandrian Coinage

By HARRY J. STEIN

THE series of Roman imperial coins struck in Alexandria has a major characteristic which immediately attracts the attention of the numismatist. It is totally different from the coinage of Rome and of the mints located in other parts of the Empire. To understand why the coinage of Alexandria is so different it is necessary to examine the status of Egypt as a colony, and the reason why its status differed from that of other colonies.

After Alexander the Great conquered Egypt he founded the City of Alexandria in B.C. 332, and made it the capital. Ptolemy Soter eventually established his dynasty as Kings of Egypt, and in accordance with the custom of Hellenic rulers, this line of monarchs regarded their dominions as their personal property. This conception of the relationship between king and country persisted until the dynasty came to an end upon the death of the notorious Cleopatra.

When Augustus defeated Marc Antony and Cleopatra, the vanguished confederates committed suicide, and Egypt fell into the hands of the con-Although Egypt was now nominally a Roman colony, as a practical matter her status was unlike that of any other Roman provincial government. With respect to Egypt, Augustus continued his personal property theory, and he too regarded the country as his private domain. Constitutional custom in Rome required that troops in the colonies were to be under the command of a senator, but not so with the land of the Pharaohs, for the members of the Senate were enjoined from visiting the country unless they had the emperor's express permission, and the army was commanded by a knight who derived his authority solely from the emperor. The affairs of Egypt and the control of the government were regarded by the emperor as his personal business about

which the people of Rome had no concern.

Egypt was thus politically isolated from the rest of the Roman world, and was used by the emperors as a sort of laboratory for trying experiments in government organization and administration. It was kept entirely free from the interference and influence of Roman law and custom. An independent system of coinage was one of the expedients adopted to insure this isolation. This coinage, commonly called "Alexandrian series" bears practically no resemblance to the money issued in other parts of the Empire.

The simple economic structure of Egypt aided materially in maintaining this separate existence, for the country had no great demand for money as a circulating medium. In the Nomes (territorial divisions) there was little demand for a coinage although one, apparently struck in Alexandria, was provided. The population was entirely agricultural and self-sufficient. As a general rule, manufactured articles were consumed locally, and oil, grain and wines rather than coins, were used in trade.

Alexandria alone had an export trade in textiles, papyrus, ivory, glass, and sundry luxuries, but this trade was not so extensive as to result in any appreciable movement of currency into and out of the country. The chief export of Egypt was grain, but it brought no money into the country for it was collected from the farmers and sent to Rome as tribute.

Thus, because of Egypt's political isolation and unimportant foreign trade, its coinage and that of Alexandria, its chief city, from the time of Augustus down to the reign of Domitian Domitianus in A.D. 296, remained practically free from the influences of other coinages.

Denominations. Upon the capture of Egypt, Augustus continued to strike bronze coins of the same values issued by the last Ptolomaic rulers. He subsequently struck other denominations, but the only metal used in his reign was bronze.

Tiberius (A.D. 14-37) instituted a long series of base silver (billon) tetradrachms which last to the time of Marcus Aurelius (A.D. 161-180). These coins circulated together with the bronze money, and although a tetradrachm was usually worth four denarii, the silver content of the Alexandrian issue was so low that it was equivalent to only one denarius.

From the reign of Commodus (A.D. 180-192) the base alloy of the tetradrachm was made still baser. This poor quality of metal is called "potin silver" by numismatists. Because of unsettled economic conditions the world over, and the universal depreciation of money in this era, it is difficult to say just what value these latter tetradrachms actually had.

Obverse Types. The obverse of the Alexandrian issues is usually the portrait of the emperor or some other member of the royal family, and is inscribed with the name and title of the person represented. The inscriptions are in a sort of hybrid combination of Latin and Greek, which the collector can easily master within a very short time.

Reverse Types. The reverses of the Alexandrian issues all bear the date of the regnal year. The types are so numerous and varied that it would require a good sized book to list them and explain their significance. However they may be conveniently divided into the following classifications:





(a.) Portraits and representation of the emperor and his kin. Illustration No. I, and example of this class, is a coin of Nero showing his own portrait on the obverse, and that of his notorious wife, Poppaea, on the reverse.



(b.) Characters belonging to Greek mythology. Under this heading come the representations, and the attributes and symbols of the various Greek divinities as Zeus, Hera, Poseidon. Herakles, Demeter, and a host of others. An interesting series struck during the reign of Antoninus Pius depicts Herakles in scenes from his various exploits: the Nemean lion, the Erymanthian boar, the hydra and others. Illustration No. 2 shows this celebrated hero god picking the golden apples in the Garden of Hesperides. Illustration No. 3, the reverse of a coin of Hadrian, shows the goddess Athena.



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(c.) Egyptian and Graeco-Egyptian types. This class includes all those coins referring to the Egyptian dieties and the Graeco-Egyptian conceptions of certain of the gods. As in the preceding classifications, the types are purely religious. Illustration No. 4 shows Serapis and Isis on a coin of Antoninus Pius.



- (d.) Roman, Graeco-Roman and Egypto-Roman types. Examples of this class are the types of the Wolf and Twins, Roma, and others having Roman reference. It includes a very interesting piece showing personifications of the Rivers Nile and Tiber with their hands joined. Illustration No. 5 is from a coin of Vespasian, with Roma as a reverse.
- (e.) Astronomical types. These types showing the various signs of the zodiac were struck only during the eighth year of the reign of Antoninus Pius (A.D. 146).



- (f.) Personifications of abstract conceptions. Under this heading may be grouped the consecration coins commemorating the apotheosis of royal personages: Aequitas holding her scales and sceptre, and a great many others. Illustration No. 6 portrays Omonoia (Concordia), on a coin of Aelius Caesar, on which she is represented holding a cornucopia and patera (libation dish).
 - (g.) Inanimate objects such as build-



ings, arches, temples, altars, ships, etc. Illustration No. 7 is from an interesting coin of Nero, showing a galley being followed by a pair of dolphins.



(h.) Animals, birds, etc. Representation of animate creatures frequently occur in the Alexandrian series. There are eagles, elephants, hippopotomi, rhinos, crocodiles, griffins, and others. Sometimes the animals refer to the gods with whom they are usually associated, and in such case the type is religious. Illustration No. 8, the reverse of a coin of Claudius, shows a hippopotamus, representing Nilus.

Alexandrian coins do not seem to have received the attention from collectors generally which they rightfully deserve. Portraits of personages regarded as rarities in the Roman series are readily obtainable at moderate prices in the Alexandrian. For example, Annia Faustina, third wife of Elagabalus, a very rare coin in the Roman series, can be more easily obtained in the Alexandrian issues. Roman coins of Tranquillina are also rare, but are common in the Alexandrian coinage. This alone should add to the attractiveness of the series. The coinage is indeed one of the most fascinating branches of ancient numismatics, and holds in store plenty of numismatic enjoyment for the collector.

The Small Sized U. S. Currency

By ROBERT H. LLOYD

PARTI

of small sized U. S. Currency was placed in the hands of the public. For a while those who had followed the changes of the older series of notes expressed little more than passing interest in the next series. Since then a number of changes have taken place in the Treasury Department which have added a great deal of interest to our currency.

If interesting variety and type changes appeal to a note collector, then the collection of small notes should be pursued with as much activity as was ever expended in studying the old series of currency. The new notes are already in issue for seven years, and there are a number of scarce varieties as well as history-making changes in the economic factors governing their issue.

Among some of the new factors introduced are: uniform reverse designs for a denomination, smaller serial numbers, the use of a seal last seen on the issues of 1896, green seals on the Federal Reserve Notes and Brown Seals on the National Bank Notes.

Taking these differences into consideration we must briefly mention the points of interest with a view to criticize and commend.

The reverse designs, while adequate, were not particularly impressive. There is little originality and the execution of the Lincoln Memorial on the Five Dollar Note is decidedly inferior. The reverses of the two and five could have been improved by the omission of the frame of the picture. In comparison with the older work of the Bureau, one cannot help but notice the decline in the artist's ability to execute pictorial designs.

The serial numbers of small size were in keeping with the reduced size of the note. A new idea appears, however,

in the use of ciphers preceding the digits of the serial. Heretofore low numbers attracted the collector of oddities. Notes numbered AIB were hardly more impressive than a number such as H74A. Under the new scheme, the shortness of a number lost its advantage in part. Today these numbers would appear A0000000IB and H00000074A. Hence the new serials take up the same amount of space on a note irrespective of the size of the number.

The seal placed in use on the Series of 1928 was that used on the Silver Certificates of the Beautiful Series of 1896. It had not been used on ordinary notes since that time. Quite fitting in size and shape, it gave added attraction to the collector because of its appearance in many colors. In addition to the use of yellow, red and blue for seals, we found a green seal added to the list, with a resurrection of the brown inked seal for the National Currency.

Two other new ideas appear for the first time on the Series of 1928. One was the use of the Secretary of the Treasury's fac-simile signature on all series of notes except the National Bank Notes, whereas heretofore it had been found on the Federal Reserve Notes only. It thus replaced the name of the Register of the Treasury on the currency on all Federal Issues. Again collectors shortly found that the Bureau had at last become consistent, and early in 1930 the appearance of the Series of 1928-A indicated that the engravers saw fit to recognize by the addition of the letter "-A" a change in the plate, or sub-variety, in a series of notes. In the old days a series might be found with a dozen differing signature combinations, now each change was to be recorded by the use of the index letter following the date, 1928-A, 1928-B, etc.

Needless to say, the above is of great assistance, not only to collectors but also to bankers and Bureau officials.

Finally, the new notes were of a size that enabled the Bureau of Engraving to print twelve notes to the sheet while formerly the sheet consisted of eight notes only. An economy of paper and ink resulted in a small saving to the Treasury.

Numismatists regretted the passing of the "yellow-backs" since the gold certificates issued bore green backs, the yellow seals being the only distinguishing factor.

Other than the above mentioned differences the small sized United States Notes, Gold and Silver Certificates and Federal Reserve Notes issued as the Series of 1928 were not greatly dissimilar to the older series. It is on the National Bank Notes that the greatest

departure was made. A stock plate was introduced, and the bank was identified by an electrotype insertion of the name, place, charter number and bank signatures. Thus the note was an engraving in the frame and design, with part of the inscription in ordinary offset printing. More detail of the National Currency Notes will be added hereafter in a chapter on National and Federal Reserve Bank Currency.

All in all the small sized currency forms a most interesting addition to the popular paper money of the large series. It is a continuous series, logical and uniform and no collection of Federal Currency is to be considered complete without it. There is no doubt but that the indifference of many collectors during the first few years of the new currency has caused many of the notes to be scarce, since few of some varieties were placed aside for posterity.

Editor's Note—This is the introductory chapter to Mr. Lloyd's series of articles on the small sized paper currency of the United States. The first article and check-list which will appear next month will be devoted to The Small Sized Legal Tender Notes.

Commemorative Half Dollars

Bills have been introduced in Congress to authorize the following silver half dollars.

Delaware: To commemorate the 300th anniversary of the landing of the Swedes in Delaware. 20,000 pieces.

Long Island, New York: To commemorate the 300th anniversary of the founding of the first settlement on Long Island, New York. 100,000 pieces.

Ohio: To commemorate the Centennial celebration to be held at Cleveland in connection with the Great Lakes Exposition. 50,000 pieces.

Cincinnati, Ohio: To commemorate the 50th anniversary of Cincinnati as a music center. 15,000 pieces.

Pennsylvania: To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. 50,000 pieces.

Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania: To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania. 25,000 pieces.

Washington: To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Waillatpu Mission, Walla Walla Valley, Washington. 25,000 pieces.

Wisconsin: To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the State of Wisconsin. 20,000 pieces.

24,214 Columbian Quarter Dollars Sold in 1893

The article published in the March Journal on the commemorative coins of the World's Columbian Exposition, gave the number of quarter-dollars coined as 40,023. This is correct but it should be stated that 15,809 were melted and 24,214 sold.

Gold Coins of Central America

By WAYTE RAYMOND

GUATEMALA

As a State of Central America





Obverse—REPUBLICA DEL CENTRO DE AMERICA. Radiant sun over fine mountain peak within a circle, date below.

Reverse—LIBRE CRESCA FECUNDO. A ceiba tree dividing value 8E (or 4E, 2E, IE). Mint-master's initials preceded by N.G. and followed by 21 Qs.

8 Scudos	4 Scudos	2 Scudos	I Scudo	1/2 Scudo
1824	1824	1825	1824	1824
	1825	1826		1825
			1827	1826
			1828	
			1830	
			1835	
			1836	

Republica de Guatemala





1846

Obverse—RAFAEL CARRERA PTE. DE LA RA. DE GUATEMALA. Head of Carrera. Reverse—GUATAE. RA. S. D.O.M. PROTECTS. National arms dividing value—16Ps, 8 Ps, 4 Ps or 2 Ps. Date below, at left—21 Q., at right R.

 16 Pesos
 8 Pesos
 4 Pesos
 2 Pesos

 1863
 1861
 1859

 1865
 1864
 1862

All but 2 Pesos extremely rare.

April, 1936

Obverse—Similar type.

Reverse—Value in wreath, I PESO (or 4 REALS) 21 Q.R.

 1 Peso
 4 Reales

 1859
 1859

 1860
 1860

 1861
 1864

1869 4 and 16 Pesos.

Obverse-R. CARRERA FUNDATOR DE LA REP. DE GUATEMALA. Head of Carrera.

Reverse—Similar to preceding type.





1869 5, 10 and 20 Pesos. Similar to preceding but 0.900 on reverse.





Obverse—REPUBLICA DE GUATEMALA. Laureated head of Republic, value VIENTE or CINCO PESOS below.

Reverse—National arms, date preceded by 0.900 F below.

20 Pesos 5 Pesos 1872 1874 1877 1878 1878





Obverse—REPUBLICA DE GUATEMALA. DIEZ PESOS. Young head of the Republic.

Reverse—National arms. 0.900 1894.





1926 5, 10 and 20 Pesos.

Obverse—LEY DE 26 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 1924. Quetzal on pillar. Reverse—REPUBLICA DE GUATEMALA. National arms.

THE COINAGE OF ETHIOPIA

(Continued from page 4)

in Abyssinia but in Arabia, the Austrian government has continually minted these to the present day, carefully cutting the dies with the most minute details as to the original pieces. According to various newspaper reports the Italian government purchased from Austria last October the dies, presses and other



equipment necessary for stamping these coins, which has since been done in Italy. The British government at the time of the Abyssinian war in 1868 was forced to use large quantities of these also. It has been estimated that over 200,000,-

000 have been minted since 1780. Over four and a half millions were struck in 1914 and over fifteen and a half millions in 1927. I am giving these figures to show how popular these thalers are even at the present day.

This thaler was originally coined at the Grünzburg mint in Swabia by Maria Theresa in 1780 and since then have been coined at Vienna and Kremnitz and are sold as a purely commercial transaction. The coin bears a veiled bust of Maria Theresa facing right. The natives insist that from five to eight pearls must show in her coronet, seven being preferable. Nine pearls must show on the oval pin on the shoulder. The letters S.F. must appear under the bust. These initials stand for Tobias Schöbel, assayer, and Joseph Fay, director of the Grünzburg mint at the time. The reverse shows the dual crowned Austrian Arms superimposed on the imperial double-headed eagle. The date 1780 must always appear to be accepted. The thaler is called Enest or woman by the Ethiopians.

(To be continued)

A Coinage List of Commemorative Half-Dollars and Other Silver

In response to many requests we are publishing a coinage table of United States commemorative half dollars. The figures represent the number issued, those returned to the mint having been deducted from the total coinage.

1892	Columbian	950,000	1934	Boone .	10,007
1893	Columbian	1,550,000	1935	Boone .	10,000
1893	Isabella Quarter	24,214	1935	Boone D	5,005
1900	Lafayette Dollar	50,026	1935	Boone S	5,005
1915	Pan-Pacific	27,164	1935	Boone Small 1934.	10,008
1918	Lincoln	100,058	1935	Boone D small 1934	2,003
1920	Maine	50,028	1935	Boone S small 1934	2,004
1920	Pilgrim	200,012	1935	Connecticut	25,018
1921	Pilgrim	20,053	1935	Arkansas	13,012
1921	Missouri	15,400	1935	Arkansas D	5,505
1921	Missouri 2x4	5,000	1935	Arkansas S	5,506
1921	Alabama	59,038	1935	Hudson	10,008
1921	Alabama 2x2	5,000	1935	San Diego	250,132
1922	Grant	67,215	1935	Old Spanish Trail	10,008
1922	Grant "STAR"	4,250	1935	Texas	10,008
1923	Monroe	274,077	1935	Texas D	10,007
1924	Huguenot	87,080	1935	Texas S	10,008
1925	Lexington	152,099	1936	Arkansas	5,005
1925	Stone Mountain	2,313,544	1936	Arkansas D .	5,005
1925	California	86,594	1936	Arkansas S	5,006
1925	Vancouver	14,994	1936	Providence	20,013
1926	Sesqui	141,120	1936	Providence D	15,000
1926	Oregon	48,030	1936	Providence S	15,000
1926	Oregon S	100,000	1936	Boone	10,000
1927	Bennington	28,142	1936	Boone S	5,006
1928	Hawaii	10,008	1936	Boone D	5,005
1928	Oregon	6,000			10,008
1933	Oregon	5,441	1936	Texas	
1934	Oregon	7,006	1936	Texas S	10,008
1934	Maryland	25,015	1936	Texas D	10,007
1934	Texas	205,113	1936	Oregon S	5,000

Famous Coin Denominations





DECADRACHM or DEKADRACH-MON, represented the multiple of ten Drachms. Next to the Dodecadrachm it is the largest of all the silver coins struck by the Greeks. The magnificant Decadrachm illustrated above shows on the obverse a Victorious quadriga, placed on a plinth, along the side of which on a shelf are a cuirass, two greaves, shield and helmet with an inscription below. The reverse shows the head of Arethusa, her hair in net surrounded by dolphins. The legend indicates that the armour was given as prizes and it is now generally agreed that it is the armour taken from the Athenians defeated at the battle of the Assinarus, when the Athenian expedition came to grief. This armour was given as prizes at the Assinarian Games which were celebrated by the Syracusans from 412 B.C. onwards in commemoration of their victory, and the coins themselves were probably used for money prizes.

DEMARETRION, or DAMARETEION. These coins were called Demareteia because they were said to have been

coined from the proceeds of a present given to Demarete, wife of Gelon, by the Carthaginians on the occasion of the peace concluded between them and Gelon by her intervention, 480 B.C. Another version of the story relates that Demarete and her ladies melted down their jewelry to supply funds for the campaign, and that the coins were struck out of the proceeds. But they are more likely to be commemorative of the victory.





This coin is the best known example of the archaic art of Greece. It represents grace and refinement, faithful and careful workmanship, and a combination of formality with the promise of freedom. It is very rare and seldom come up for sale.

Description: Obverse. Quadriga, horses walking, crowned by Nike. In exergue a wild lion racing. This is sometimes thought to be symbolic of the subdued and fleeing forces of Africa.

R Head of Arethusa wearing a simple earring and necklace and crowned with a laurel wreath, surrounded by dolphins.

 $oldsymbol{m}$

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In order to save space the following abbreviations are sometimes used—G. = Good; V. G. = Very good; F. = Fine; V. F. = Very fine; E. F. = Extremely fine; Unc. = Uncirculated.

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Dollars 1796 Large date. Ex. fine	12.50 1865 7.50 1866	Ex. fine	.50 .00 .00 .50
1798 Small eagle. 15 stars. V. good	7 50	Half Dollars	
1798 Small eagle. 13 stars. Fine I 1798 Large eagle. About perfect I 1798 Fine 1799 over 98. Fine 1799 Stars 7+6. About perfect I 1799 Very fine 1799 Stars 8+5. Very fine I 1799 Stars 8+5. About fine 1800 Extremely fine I 1800 Very fine 1801 Extremely fine I 1802 over I. Very fine I 1802 Very fine 7.50. Fine 1803 Large 3. Fine 1803 Small 3. Fine 1836 Proof, slightly impaired 3 1839 Brilliant proof 10 1841 Very fine 1843 Ex. fine 3.00. Unc. 1844 Uncirculated 1845 Very fine 4.00. Unc. 1846 Ex. fine 1847 Ex. fine 1848 Very fine 1849 Ex. fine 1850 Ex. fine 1850 Ex. fine 1850 Ex. fine 1851 Ex. fine 1852 Ex. fine 1853 Ex. fine	10.00 1794 12.50 1795 5.00 1801 7.50 1802 10.00 1803 6.00 1805 2.50 1805 7.50 1806 0.00 1806 7.50 1807 6.50 1807 2.50 1808 5.00 1808 7.50 1809 7.50 1809 7.50 1810 80.00 1811 90.00 1812 2.50 1814 3.50 1815 6.00 1817 7.50 1817 3.50 1818 2.75 1819 3.50 1820 4.00 1820 5.00 1820	Very good 15.00. Fine \$20. Fine 7. Fine 7.50. Very good 6. Good 4. Large 3. Fine 3. over 4. Very fine 5. Very good 2.00. Fine 3. over 5. Very fine 2. Very fine 3. New type. 50 over 20. Fine 3. Same variety. V. fine 4. over 7. About unc. 5. Ex. fine 3.50. V. fine 2. Very fine 1. Small 8. Very fine 1. Uncirculated 2. Fine 1. Ex. fine 15.00. V. fine 10. over 13. Fine 2. Fine 1. over 17. Very fine 2. very fine 3. over 18. Very fine 3. over 19. Ex. fine 2. Large date. Very fine 2. Small date. Very fine 2.	.50 .00 .50 .00 .00 .50 .50 .50 .50 .50
1854 Very fine 1	0.00	Very fine 1.25. Unc. 2.	.00

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23 Ex. fine 1.50. Unc.	2.00	1796 Ex. fine 35.0
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27 over 26. Uncirculat	ed 5.00	1806 Fine 3.5
27 Square based 2. (Jnc. 1.50	1807 Very fine 6.5
28 Small date. Unc.	2.00	1815 Fine 2.50. V. fine 4.0
29 V. fine 1.25. Unc.	1.50	1818 Very fine
30 Small O. V. F. 1.00		1819 Small 9. Fine 2.50. V.F. 3.5
31 Uncirculated		1820 Large O. Very fine 2.5 1821 Fine 2.00. V.F. 2.5
32 Large letters. Unc 32 Small letters. Unc	2.00	1821 Uncirculated 5.0
33 Uncirculated		1822 Fine
34 Large date and lett		1824 Fine 4.00. V.F. 6.0
34 Small date, stars and	letters.	1825 over 23. Fine
Unc		1825 over 24. Ex. fine 5.0
34 Small date and lett		1828 Fine 2.50. V.F
large stars. Unc 35 Uncirculated		1831 Small letters. F. 1.00. Unc. 2.0
35 Uncirculated		1832 Fine
36 Milled edge. Ex. f		1833 Very fine 1.5
36 Milled edge. Fine		1834 Very fine 1.5
37 Uncirculated	2.00	1835 Fine 100. V.F
38 Uncirculated	2.00	1836 Very fine 1.2
39 Uncirculated		1837 Very fine
39 With drapery. Ex. 40 Ex. fine	3 50	1838 Liberty st'd Unc. 3.5
41 Ex. fine	2.50	1839 Very fine 1.50. Unc 2.5
42 Large date. E.F. 2	.50. Unc. 3.50	1839 Very fine 1.50. Unc
42 Small date. Unc.	3.50	1844 Very tine 2.0
43 Ex. fine	2.00	1845 Ex. tine 1.5
44 Ex. fine	3.00	1846 Ex. fine 2.0
45 Very fine 46 Tall date. Unc.	2.00	1848 Very fine 2.5
46 Small date. Ex. fine	e 2 50	1849 Very fine
47 Very fine	2.50	1850 Very fine 2.0
349 Uncirculated .	6.00	1851 Fine
552 Ex. tine 7.50. Und	10.00	1852 Fine 2.0
353 With arrows. Ex.	tine 2.50	1853 Without arrows. Unc. 30.0
854 Very fine	1.25	1853 With arrows. V. fine
355 Fine 357 Uncirculated	1.5U 1.50	1855 Ex. fine 1.5
357 Uncirculated	1.50	1857 Very fine
361 Uncirculated	1.50	1858, 59, 60, 61 Unc. Each . 1.0
861 Uncirculated . 862 Very fine .	2.00	1864 Very fine. 1.00. Unc 1.1
365 Ex. fine	1.25	1865 Very fine
866 Uncirculated	1.50	1868 Uncirculated 1.1 1873 Without arrows. Unc. 1.1
368 Uncirculated	1.50	1873 With arrows. Unc. 2.0
370 Uncirculated	1.50	1874 Uncirculated I.
373 With arrows. Und		1875 to 1880. Unc. Each 1.0
375 Uncirculated	1.50	1882, 85 Unc. Each
376 Uncirculated	1.50	1892, 95, 98, 99 Unc. Each 1.0 1910, 12 Unc. Each 1.0 1914 Uncirculated 1.0
883,86,88 Unc. Each	1.50	1710, 12 Unc. Each I.
17 Ilon Foch	77, 1701, LEO	1917 First type. Unc 1.
916. 17 Unc Fach	1.50	1924, 25, 26, 27 Unc. Each .
719 Uncirculated	2.00	1929, 1930 Unc. Each
720 Uncirculated	2.50	1932, 34 Unc. Each
934 Uncirculated	1.00	1935 Uncirculated

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1875 S Uncirculated 1.25	Unc. 5.00
1876 Uncirculated	1857 Very fine
1878 Proof	1860, 61 Unc. Each 1.00
	1862 Uncirculated
Dimes	1864 Fine 1.25 1872 Uncirculated .75
	1873 With arrows. Unc 1.00
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1798 over 97. Good	1890, 91 Unc. Each
1798 Small 8. V. good 10.00	1916, 17 Unc. Each
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1803 Very good 15.00 1804 Very good. Rare	1924 Uncirculated
1805 Fine 4.00	1930, 31 Unc. Each35
1807 Very fine	
1811 over 9. Fine	Half Dimes
1814 Large date. Fine 2.00. V.F. 3.50	1795 Fine 5.00. Unc. 10.00
1814 Small date. Ex. fine	1800 Very fine 10.00
1820 Small O. Very fine	1800 Libekty. Good 4.00
1821 Large date. V. fine	1801 Very good 10.00
1822 About fine	1805 Good 10.00
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1836 Uncirculated	1849 Uncirculated . 1.00 1850 Uncirculated . 1.25
1837 Very fine 1.50 1837 Liberty st'd. Large date.	1851 Very fine
Unc 3.50	1853 Without arrows. Unc. 3.50 1854 to 59 Unc. Each 50
1837 Same. Small date. Unc. 5.00 1838, 39 Unc. Each 1.50	1860, 61, 62 Unc. Each .75
1840 Uncirculated	1863, 66, 67 Unc. Each 1.50
1841 Very fine 1.50. Unc 2.50	1868, 69 Unc. Each 1.00
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1852 Very fine 1.50	1855 Fine 1856 Very fine .75 1857 Uncirculated .2.25
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1853 With arrows. V. fine	1860, 61, 62 Unc. Each 1.00 1864 Uncirculated 10.00

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Within Ten Days After the Announcement That 5,000

1936 Oregon Trail Half-Dollars

would be struck at the San Francisco Mint to commemorate the Whitman Mission,

THE ENTIRE ISSUE WAS OVERSUBSCRIBED

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Because of the work involved in sorting the thousands of orders the mailing will be somewhat delayed.

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to those who purchased the recently issued Oregon Trail Commemorative Half Dollars
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COMMEMORATIVE COINS

Monthly Price List-April, 1936

The great demand for United States Commemorative coins has made it impossible for the Coin Department to maintain for any length of time the prices quoted in the Standard Catalogue or Standard Price List. It has, therefore, been deemed advisable to publish in the Coin Collector's Journal a monthly list of prices. These prices are subject to change without notice. Postage extra in all cases.

SILVER COMMEMORATIVE COINS

١.	1892 Half Dollar. Columbus	*		1934 Half Dollar. Boone	3.50
2.	1893 Half Dollar. Columbus	1.00	33.	1935 Half Dollar. Boone	3.00
3.	1893 Quarter Dol. Isabella .	3.00	33a.	1935 Half Dollar. Boone D	4.00
4.	1900 Dollar. Lafayette	5.00	33b.	1935 Half Dollar. Boone S.	4.00
5.	1915 Half Dol. Pan. Pacific.		34.	1935 Half Dollar. Connect	5.00
6.	1918 Half Dollar. Lincoln		35.	1935 Half Dollar. Arkansas .	2.50
7.	1920 Half Dollar. Maine		35a.	1935 Half Dollar. Arkansas D	3.50
8.	1920 Half Dollar. Pilgrim			1935 Half Dollar. Arkansas S	3.50
9.	1921 Half Dollar. Pilgrim			1935 Half Dollar. Hudson	7.50
10.	1921 Half Dollar. Missouri			1935 Half Dollar. San Diego	1.50
11.	1921 Half Dollar. Missouri.			1935 Half Dollar. Spanish	
	2*4			Trail	6.50
12.	1921 Half Dollar. Alabama	5.00		1935 Half Dollar. Bcone.	
13.	1921 Half Dollar. Alabama.	3.00		With small 1934 date	2.50
	2×2			1935 Half Dollar. Texas	
14.	1922 Half Dollar. Grant	2.50		1935 Half Dollar. Texas D	
15.	1922 Half Dollar. Grant*	2.50		1935 Half Dollar. Texas S	
16.	1923 Half Dollar. Monroe	2.00		Sold only in sets of three	7.50
17.	1924 Half Dollar. Huguenot	2.50	4	1936 Half Dollar. Arkansas	2.50
18.	1925 Half Dollar. Lexington.	2.00		1936 Half Dollar. Arkansas D	2.50
19.	1925 Half Dollar. Stone Mt.	1.00		1936 Half Dollar. Arkansas S	2.50
20.	1925 Half Dollar. California	2.50		1936 Half Dollar. Rhode Is.	2.00
21.	1925 Half Dollar. Vancouver	9.00		1936 Half Dollar. Rhode Is. D	
22.	1926 Half Dollar. Sesqui	1.75		1936 Half Dollar. Rhode Is. S	
23.	1926 Half Dollar. Oregon	2.00		Sold only in sets of three	9.00
24.	1926 Half Dollar. Oregon S	2.00		1936 Half Dollar. Boone	1.50
25.	1927 Half Dollar. Vermont	2.50		1936 Half Dollar. Boone D	1.00
26.				1936 Half Dollar. Boone S	
				Sold by the pair only	8.00
27.	1928 Half Dollar. Oregon			1936 Half Dollar. Texas.	0.00
28.	1933 Half Dollar. Oregon	7.50		1936 Half Dollar. Texas D	
29.	1934 Half Dollar. Oregon .	3.00		1936 Half Dollar. Texas \$	
30.	1934 Half Dollar. Maryland			Sold only in sets of three	6.00
31.	1934 Half Dollar. Texas			1936 Half Dollar. Oregon S	0.00
J 1 .	Texas	1.50	ΤЭ.	1730 Hall Dollar. Oregon 3	

SILVER COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS

1925	Norse Centennial	1.50	1935 Pony Express Jubilee. Nickel-	
1935	Pony Express. Coin silver	2.50		.25

GOLD COMMEMORATIVE COINS

1903 Dollar. Jefferson	\$7.00	1915 50 Dol.	Pan. Pac.	Round 300.00
1903 Dollar. McKinley	7.00	1915 50 Dol.	Pan. Pac.	Octag. 250.00
1904 Dollar. Lewis-Clark	15.00			4.50
1905 Dollar. Lewis-Clark	12.50			8.00
				10.00
1915 $2\frac{1}{2}$ Dol. Pan. Pacifi	C 17.50	1922 Dollar.	Grant. Star	6.00
1915 Dollar. Pan. Pacific	5.00	1926 21/ ₂ Do	llar. Sesqui	7.50

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